

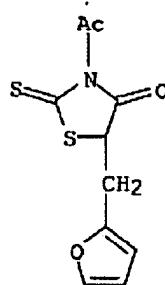
Remarks

As a preliminary matter, the applicants respectfully submit that making the present action final was improper because the previous amendments to the claims did not necessitate the present 35 USC § 102 rejections. The previous rejections merely narrowed the claims, so if the art cited in the present Office Action can be applied to the amended claims, they could have been applied to the claims before amendment. Accordingly, the applicants request withdrawal of the finality of this rejection.

Claims 1 and 11 have been amended merely to correct minor informalities. First, the -C(O)-OR₆ moiety has been deleted from the definition of R₁ because it is subsumed within the -C₀-C₆ alkyl-C(O)OR₆ moiety bridging the first and second line of the definition of R₁. Accordingly, the amendment does not alter the scope of the claims.

Second, claims 1 and 11 have also been amended by correcting the definition of B to include =C- in the definition of B. Support for this can be found in the claims as filed, wherein claim 2, which depended from claim 1, recites a compound comprising the compound of claim 1 wherein B is =C-. Similarly, original claim 11 expressly excluded compounds in which B is =C-, thereby implying such compounds were within the scope of the initially-recited genus in claim 1. Additional support is found in all the compounds disclosed in the table following paragraph [0026] of the application as filed.

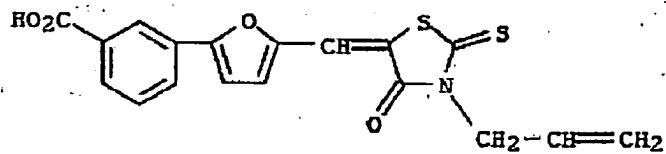
Claims 1 and 11 were rejected as anticipated by Donia, which discloses the compound



The applicants have amended claim 1 by deleting the -C(O)-R₆ moiety from the definition of R₁, thereby obviating this rejection.

Claims 1-10 were rejected as anticipated by Wang. The applicants respectfully disagree.

The compound of Wang referred to in the Office Action



has a C₃-alkenyl linked to the N of the thioxothiazolidinone ring. This substituent corresponds to R₁ of the present claims, which includes only C₁-C₂ alkenyl and not C₃-alkenyl within its definition. Thus, Wang does not anticipate, and the applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

If it is believed that a teleconference will advance prosecution, the examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned as indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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